

Maria Connolly (AICP, PP), Principal Planner
Local Planning Services (LPS)
New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
P.O. Box 813 Trenton, New Jersey 08625
Phone: 609-292-4317
Maria.Connolly@dca.nj.gov
<https://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/lps/>

Maria Connolly has been a planner with the Department of Community Affairs for 17 years. A large majority of that time was as a planner with the Council on Affordable Housing (COAH) reviewing municipal Housing Elements and Fair Share Plans, handling affordable housing administration issues, and assisting with the drafting of COAH's rules. Currently, Maria works on LPS project teams that provide land use planning services to eligible municipalities in NJ at no charge and supervises other planners in the office. Maria led the teams that prepared a Waterfront Redevelopment Plan for the City of Salem and a Master Plan for the Borough of Woodbine. Maria is also responsible for administering the Basic Course in Land Use Law and Planning Program for new planning/zoning board members, and for reviewing Redevelopment Area Bond applications for planning issues and making recommendations on the applications to DCA Local Government Services. Maria is the Department designee on the NJ Clean Water Council and NJ Clean Air Council. She graduated from Rutgers University with a Bachelor of Arts and received a Masters of City and Regional Planning from the E.J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy.

A native of Hoboken, Maria now lives in Lawrence Township (Mercer County) with her husband and three children, where she is the Vice-Chair of both the Township Planning Board and Growth and Redevelopment Committee.